



United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia

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PRESS RELEASE

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Former Owner of Durable Medical Equipment Company Sentenced to 5 Years Probation and Home Confinement for Health Care Fraud

WASHINGTON - Donna C. Barry, 45, the former owner and chief executive officer of Doors of Hope Medical Supply, LLC was sentenced today to five years of probation and six months of home confinement after earlier pleading guilty to one count of health care fraud. The Honorable Judge Reggie B. Walton also ordered her to pay restitution of \$122,925 and to perform 1,000 hours of community service. Barry's sentencing took place in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and was announced by U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr.

Barry pled guilty on March 16, 2010 to a charge stemming from Doors of Hope's billing practices. Doors of Hope was in the business of selling canes, walkers, hospital beds, wheelchairs and other forms of durable medical equipment to D.C. Medicaid beneficiaries. Its offices were at Greater Southeast Hospital in the District of Columbia.

During her plea, Barry admitted that during the period of approximately March 2004 through November 2005, she knowingly submitted false claims to D.C. Medicaid for equipment. She either did not actually provide the equipment that was stated on the claims to the D.C. Medicaid beneficiaries or they were not covered under the Medicaid program.

For example, Barry billed for power wheelchairs when, in reality, she provided the D.C. Medicaid beneficiaries with manual wheelchairs, manual walkers or cheaper electric scooters that were not covered under the Medicaid program. As a result, she received \$122,925 from D.C. Medicaid for power wheelchairs that she did not provide to D.C. Medicaid beneficiaries.

The U.S. Attorney's Office, the FBI, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), and the District of Columbia Medicaid Fraud Control Unit worked on this case as part of

a commitment to uncovering and prosecuting health care professionals who abuse the public trust and enrich themselves through fraud and abuse.

U.S. Attorney Machen praised the outstanding efforts of the Special Agents of the Health Care Fraud Unit at the FBI's Washington Field Office, Special Agents of HHS's Office of Inspector General, and the Special Agents of the D.C. Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. He also commended the efforts of Paralegal Specialists Diane Hayes and Legal Assistant Jamasee Lucas. Finally, he praised the work of Special Assistant U.S. Attorney from the DC Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, Jacqueline Schesnol, and Assistant U.S. Assistant Attorney Lionel André, who indicted the case and negotiated the plea.

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